REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are pending and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 1, 6, 18, 35, 38, and 42 have been amended leaving claims 1-42 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. Support for the amendments may be found at least on pages 5-8 of the specification and Figures 1 and 2 as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections -35 USC §102

Claims 1-17 and 35-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Farrington (U.S. Patent No. 5,185,705). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner alleges with regards to claims 1and 35 that Farrington discloses a trip unit (figures 12-14, and 28-34) including a sensor (figure 14) for sensing a condition of a circuit providing electricity to a load (figure 12 and signal converter for converting signals generated by the sensor in to a digital value indicative of the condition (column 21, line 5-65), and further comprising: a first storage device including a first trip setting value stored therein; a second storage device including a second trip setting values (column 33, line 1-65); and a micro controller including an output generating a trip signal in response to the digital value indicative of the condition in the circuit and one of the first and second trip setting value selected by switch (abstract line 1-30).

More specifically, Farrington discloses a network having a plurality of circuit breakers communicating with a computer. (See Col. 1, lines 17-19.) The invention is a network of microprocessor operated circuit breakers capable of communications with a central computer and with digital meters. Each circuit breaker uses a microprocessor to control its operation. The network provides a means for convenient control of switching actions of the circuit breakers. Additionally, the network supplies information concerning each main feeder circuit, and each branch circuit for which information is desired, to the central computer. (Col. 1, lines 50 58.) Various switches visible through the panel opening are used to control settings of the Trip Unit, such as the long time ampere rating and delay time, the short time ampere pickup rating and delay time, the instantaneous ampere pickup rating, and the ground fault ampere pickup rating and delay time. (Col. 5,

lines 60-65.) Farrington does not teach selecting and storing two different trip setting values such as two long time ampere ratings and corresponding delay times, for example.

Farrington more accurately discloses with respect to Col. 33, lines 1-65, in which the Examiner relies, that the microprocessor retains historical information in non- volatile memory U25. The background program updates storage of information in non- volatile memory U25. Information retained in non- volatile memory U25 includes: the number of long time trips, the number of short circuit trips including short time trips and short circuit trips, the number of ground fault trips, and the cause and level of last trip. Col. 33, lines 44-51.

Farrington fails to teach or suggest a first selecting means configured to select a first trip setting value from a plurality of trip setting values; a second selecting means configured to select a second trip setting value from said plurality of trip setting values; a first storage device including said first trip setting value stored therein; a second storage device including said second trip setting value stored therein; [and] a switch configured to switch between **a digital means and an analog means for selecting said first and second trip setting values**, as in amended claim 1 and similarly claimed in claims 18, 35, 38, and 42. Thus, claims 1, 18, 35, 38, and 42, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., 2-17, 19-34, 36, 37, and 39-41, define over Farrington.

With regards to claims 2-17 and 36-37, the Examiner alleges that Farrington also discloses the claimed limitations such as trip setting selection, a non volatile memory, a digital out put, a remote control, a local control, micro controller and so on . . . (columns 42 and 47-54). Applicants respectfully traverse.

It is respectfully pointed out that claim 2-17 depend from claim 1 and claims 36 - 37 depend from claim 35, which are both submitted as being allowable for defining over Farrington as discussed above. Furthermore, it is respectfully noted that use of the alleged limitations such as trip setting selection, a non volatile memory, a digital out put, a remote control, a local control, micro controller and so on . . . allegedly taught in Farrington does not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Farrington as applied to claims 1 and 35 as discussed above.

Claims 18-34 and 38-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Elms et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,351,012). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner alleges that Elms et al. disclose the claimed invention (figure 2), including a circuit breaker, a set of contacts, a sensor, a signal converter and storage devices, a register, digital output representing, an electrical switch for local and remote control and a micro controller (column 23-30).

More specifically, Elms et al. disclose that a potentiometer is adjusted by an operator to enter a value of a parameter defining the time-current characteristic of the circuit breaker. An analog-to-digital converter receives the voltage supplied by the potentiometer and converts it to a digital quantity for use by the microcomputer in performing limit checks with the current flow through the contacts of the breaker. The microcomputer formats the converted digital value of the potentiometer voltage and supplies it to a front panel-visible numeric display so that the value of the potentiometer setting as interpreted by the microcomputer in defining the time-current trip characteristic is presented on the numeric display to provide real-time feedback to the operator as he adjusts the parameter value. (See Abstract.) Thus, Elm et al. disclose entry means for supplying an operator-selected value of a [single] time- current trip parameter to the trip unit responsive to only local control, and display means connected to the trip unit for immediately displaying the operator selected value; the entry means and the display means being accessible from an exterior surface of said housing. (Col. 3, lines 1-6.)

Elms et al. fails to teach or suggest a first selecting means configured to select a first trip setting value from a plurality of trip setting values; a second selecting means configured to select a second trip setting value from said plurality of trip setting values; a first storage device configured to store said first trip setting value; a second storage device configured to store said second trip setting value; [and] a switch configured to **switch between a digital means and an analog means to select said first and second trip setting values**, as in amended claim 18, and similarly claimed in claims 38 and 42. Thus claims 18, 38, and 42 including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 19-33 and 39-41, define over Elms et al.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein are allowable to Applicants. In view of the foregoing points that distinguish Applicants' invention from those of the prior art and render Applicants' invention not obvious, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the present application, remove the rejections, and allow the application to issue.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

If there are any charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
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